

Remarks

This is in response to the Office Action mailed October 2, 2003. The Examiner has requested election of a single species among twelve species identified on page 2 of the Action. Applicants respectfully elect Group II, drawn to Figures 4, 5, and 6, with traverse and without prejudice. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 15, 16, 18, 22, 23, 32, 34-38, and 40-49 are readable on the elected species. The basis for Applicants' traversal is that the Examiner has not shown why examination of all of identified species does not pose an undue burden on the Office. Also, Applicants do not wish to be bound to the Examiner's logic underlying the request for election of species.

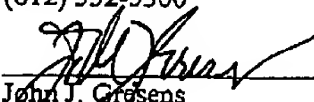
The claims have also been amended to remove reference signs and to address other non-substantive issues. None of the amendments to the claims should be considered as limiting.

Favorable consideration of all claims pending herein is earnestly solicited. Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1/2/04, 2003

  
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